

Forest Tax & Stewardship News

Spring 2007 Volume 4, No. 1

Welcome to New MFL Landowners

By Julie Polasky **DNR Forest Tax Program Specialist**

elcome to the landowners who have recently enrolled land into the Managed Forest Law program. The Department approved over 1900 entries for the 2007 entry year, covering approximately 121,000 acres! Your participation in this program is important to the future landscape of Wisconsin. We hope that you'll enjoy being part of the community of

landowners with land enrolled in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) or Forest Crop Law (FCL) program.

There are now almost 3 million acres enrolled in the MFL program and approximately 275,000 acres enrolled in the FCL program. Thank to you to all MFL and FCL landowners for your sustainable management of the land and for being a key factor in maintaining the health of Wisconsin forests. Together we make a difference!



New Burning Permit Trial Underway in 2007

By Catherine Regan **DNR Wildfire Prevention Specialist**

"Our number one goal is to urge people to burn when it's safe to do so. We hope by implementing this new system, we will increase permit compliance, thus, reduce the number of unwanted, human-caused fires throughout Wisconsin."

Catherine Regan Wildfire Prevention Specialist

ince the 1920's, the DNR has been issuing handwritten three-day permits to landowners for burning small amounts of leaves, brush, and pine needles. With high hopes, the DNR is launching a new form of burning permit issuance which will allow landowners within the trial area to receive a one-time annual permit for vegetative debris burning. Now when landowners wish to burn, they have two options for checking the daily burning restrictions: call a toll-free number or check the internet on the DNR website and select the county in which they

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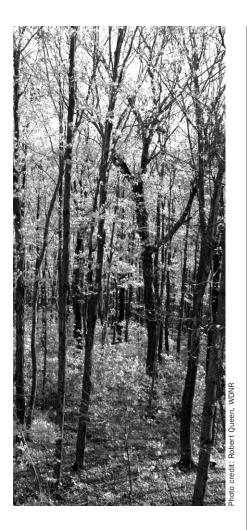
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intend to burn. The website and the recorded message will inform the permittee of the current daily burning restrictions.

The intent of the trial is to provide a more convenient process for customers, thus increase permit compliance, provide a consistent message about burning, reduce the overall number of paper permits being issued, and allow greater control for fire officials to suspend burning permits. Given that 90% of the wildfires in Wisconsin are human-caused, primarily through debris burning, this new system could benefit our natural resources as well as provide improved customer service.

Landowners still need to have the permit available upon request and can be cited if they are burning outside of the restrictions for the day. Special permits for large quantities or broadcast burning, all day permits, and commercial

contractor permits will not be included in the phone-in system. All written permits can be obtained by the same permit writers as in the past: designated DNR employees and emergency fire wardens.

The new burning permit issuance system is currently underway and being tested in the following nine counties: Forest, Florence, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, and Vilas. The pilot project began in January 1, 2007 and is expected to run the entire calendar year. The DNR will continue to assess the effectiveness of the issuance system and determine if changes need to be made before expanding statewide.

For more information regarding the burning permit trial and to view the daily burning restrictions in your area, visit www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire and go to "View Burning Permit Restrictions."

New Webpage for Forest Landowners

http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/LP-private.htm

By Kirsten Held DNR Forestry Outreach and Issues Specialist

eed information about tree planting, timber harvesting, finding forestry assistance, protecting your woodland home from wildfire, understanding a legal description, or maintaining the health of your woodlands? All of this — and much more — can be found on the DNR website; however, it is scattered across various sections of a very large website.

To make it easy for you to locate the various pieces of information relevant

to you as a woodland owner, the Division of Forestry has created a web page specifically for woodland owners. This page contains links to the most commonly-accessed information.

Use this page as a starting point to find the wealth of information on the DNR website that can help you be a better steward of your woodlands: http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/LP-private.htm

If you have suggestions for additional links to DNR information, we'd welcome an e-mail from you to: Forestry.Webmail@Wisconsin.gov

Tree Planting — Tips for Success!

By Greg Edge
DNR Forest Geneticist and Nursery Specialist

isconsin forest landowners show their conservation ethic every year by planting 15-25 million tree seedlings to enhance and restore native forests. Growing forest products, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing soil erosion, improving water quality, conserving energy by establishing a windbreak, and improving the aesthetics of their land are just a few of the reasons landowners plant trees. Many folks also find tree planting a great way to leave a living legacy for their children and grandchildren.

Tree Planting's Top 10 Tips

Successful tree planting is a process and can be broken down into 10 important steps:

Step 1 – Set your goals. Determine what you hope to accomplish with your tree planting in the short-term and long-term.

Step 2 – Evaluate your planting site. Climate, soil types, current vegetation, topography, surrounding landscape, and endangered resources are factors you need to consider before planting.

Step 3 – Select tree species that match your goals and your planting site.

Step 4 – Prepare your planting site before the trees arrive. Just like a vegetable garden must be prepared for spring planting, tree planting sites must be prepared to control competing vegetation.

Step 5 – Transport your seedlings properly from the nursery. Always keep your seedlings cool and protected from direct sunlight; cover with a light colored or reflective tarp if possible.

Step 6 – Plant ASAP! Always keep your seedlings cool (33-40°F) and moist



(90-95% humidity) until planted. For best results, plant your seedlings within 5 days of delivery from the nursery.

Step 7 – Create a planting hole deep enough to accommodate the seedling's entire root system. Only prune excessively long roots when necessary. For example, 2 and 3-year-old seedlings can have roots pruned no more than 8-10 inches below the root collar.

Step 8 – Plant seedlings with the root collar at the soil line or not more than 1/2 inch deeper.

Step 9 – Control competing weeds and grasses after planting with appropriate herbicides, mowing, tilling, or weed mats. Weed control treatments should be applied annually for the first 3-5 growing seasons or until trees are growing well.

Step 10 – Protect your trees from deer! Deer damage can be limited through the use of fencing, tree shelters, repellents, bud caps, and hunting.

Remember, help is available! DNR and cooperating consultant foresters can provide tree planting advice and develop

written tree planting plans to help you with the process. Your forester can also help you locate tree planting equipment or custom tree planting services if needed. You may already have tree planting recommendations or requirements outlined in you Managed Forest Law, Forest Crop Law or Forest Stewardship management plan.

Where do I get tree seedlings?

Tree seedlings and wildlife shrubs can be obtained from both private and public sector nurseries in Wisconsin. Landowners can purchase seedlings from the DNR state nurseries for reforestation, wildlife habitat, and erosion control purposes, but they cannot use DNR trees for landscaping or Christmas trees. The minimum quantity that can be ordered from the state nurseries is 1000 tree seedlings or 500 wildlife shrubs or one packet. Wildlife, energy, and shoreland packets include 300 seedlings each.

Forest tree seedlings and shrubs are distributed in April and early May. Landowners who order from the DNR can pick up their seedlings at the state nurseries located in Boscobel, Hayward, or Wisconsin Rapids, or in many counties at a central location designated by the local DNR forester. Applications to purchase state nursery stock are available from local DNR offices, service centers, state nurseries, or by visiting the DNR website at http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/ land/forestry/nursery/order/index.htm. A list of private nurseries providing forest tree seedlings in Wisconsin is generally available from these same offices and the DNR website.

Notice!

Seek your DNR forester's advice before buying, selling or transferring tax law land. This will help you avoid unwanted withdrawals and penalties.

Wisconsin to Host 2007 National Tree Farmer Convention

By Don Krohn Tree Farmer

isconsin will be the site for the 2007 National Tree Farmer Convention, October 11-14. The American Tree Farm System chose Wisconsin as the site for the convention because of long, active involvement and support of the Tree Farm program by the state's forest landowners. Wisconsin has, by far, the most private landowners associated with the Tree Farm Program. There are now over 37,000 Tree Farm members in Wisconsin, including over 30,000 who are affiliated with the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program. Members of the MFL program are certified through the American Forest Foundation (AFF) Standards.

"We would like Wisconsin
MFL members to
take advantage
of this once
in a lifetime
opportunity
being held
right here in
Wisconsin,"
Wisconsin, State
Forester Paul
DeLong said. The

convention will be headquartered at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. The program includes nationally prominent keynote speakers, concurrent learning sessions with subjects such as deer impact, state of the industry, estate planning, forest product trends including alternative energy, insects invading our forests, fire management, and early logging, and presentations by several of the nation's best tree farmers. The Saturday field day will be open as a single-day registration for those people whose schedules limit their participation in the entire event. There are also a number of pre- and post-convention tours planned.

"Great Lakes, Great Forests" has been chosen as an appropriate theme for this state's event. "We have a wonderful history of forest conservation and sustainable management in the state, producing many conservation leaders, including Aldo Leopold, whose influence is felt throughout the world," DeLong

said. "Attendance at this conference will further this heritage as you bring back to your woodland the latest forest management ideas and skills."

Registration information is available on the American Tree Farm System website at www.treefarmsystem.org.

Convention Q & A

Q: Do I qualify to attend the convention?

A: Yes. As part of the Wisconsin Managed Forest Law (MFL) program, which is certified through the American Forest Foundation standards, you are eligible to participate in Tree Farmer programs. Attendance has also been made available to private landowners who are not part of the American Tree Farm System.

Q: Why would I want to participate in this National Tree Farmer Convention?

A: There will be many educational presentations geared toward helping you manage your forestland. You can choose the subjects that interest you. At the Saturday field day, there will be hands-on programs ranging from control of invasive species and pine tree pruning to brush control and prescribed burning. You will also be able to meet other forest landowners and compare ideas, discuss solutions to common problems and develop friendships.

Q: I don't have a lot of time. Can I participate in only some parts of the convention?

A: Yes. You can register for the parts of the convention you would like to participate in. Examples are the concurrent sessions on Friday with a

variety of woodland-related topics and the Saturday field day at the Arington Tree Farm in Cambridge. Information on registration is available on the American Tree Farm System website at www.treefarmsystem.org.

Q: My tree farm is in Vilas County. Why would I want to go to a field day in Dane County?

A: Many of the subjects covered at Joe Arington's Tree Farm field day on Saturday will be applicable to forest landowners throughout the state, including the far north.

Q: Do I have to join anything?

A: No. No one will pressure you to join anything. The convention is held to provide information on how to better manage your forestland.

Q: I would like to have a Tree Farm sign on my property. Is that part of the registration?

A: No. There is another article in this newsletter titled, "Tree Farm Sign," that explains the details of obtaining one.

National Tree Farmer Convention Tours

By Randy Sthokal WTFC Tree Farm Administrator

he Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee's Convention Planning Committee has released a tentative schedule of events for the 2007 National Tree Farmer Convention. The committee has planned a variety of tours that highlight our unique state of Wisconsin.

Two-day pre-conference tours begin on October 9, 2007. The highlight of one tour is a visit to the Menomonee Indian Tribal Enterprises logging operation, showcasing their sustainable forestry management practices. Other stops on this tour will include the Charlson Tree Farm, the 2000 Regional Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year, and the Zdanovec Tree Farm, the 2004 National Tree Farm of the Year. The USFS Oconto River Seed Orchard and Kretz Lumber Company are on the agenda as well.

The second two-day pre-conference tour will head east to Green Bay and stop at Lambeau Field and the Packer Hall of Fame. The group will also visit Thunder Mountain Ranch, a 3,300-acre Tree Farm that has been owned and managed by the same family since 1929, and the Jacobs Tree Farm for a Wisconsin fish boil.

On October 10, tour options will include a tour of central Wisconsin and the Livingston Tree Farm, 2005 Wisconsin Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. At this Tree Farm, the group will take part in the new Learning Experiences and Activities in Forestry (LEAF) Fire Curriculum, which is based on the Cottonville fire of 2005. The tour will also visit a Stora Enso Paper Mill.

Multiple tour options will be provided on October 11. A convention highlight will

be a tour of the International Crane Foundation, the Leopold Legacy Center, and the Aldo Leopold shack.

There will also be a tour of Horicon Marsh, the largest freshwater cattail marsh in the United States. Horicon Marsh has been designated as a "Wetland of International Importance" and a "Globally Important Bird Area." Over 260 kinds of birds have been sighted here over the years.

The morning will be spent at Horicon Marsh DNR Headquarters with a program given by Bill Volkert, natural resources educator. The afternoon will be spent on a pontoon tour of Horicon Marsh. Don't forget your binoculars!

A Wisconsin school forest tour will be offered during the convention. Hosted by Jeremy Solin, Wisconsin school forest education specialist, the tour will visit the school forests in Verona and Portage and will highlight student management projects and plan developments.

Convention-goers will also have the opportunity to visit the Forest Products Laboratory of the USDA Forest Service, which serves as the nation's leading wood research institute. Tour stops will include the wood anatomy lab, engineering and mechanics lab, pulp and paper lab, wood compost lab and the demonstration house. A visit to the Crave Brother Dairy Farm will also be included, featuring a tour of their cheese-making operations and a view of the morning milking.

On October 14, there will be a post-conference tour (depending on interest) to revisit the Leopold Legacy Center and the Aldo Leopold shack.

Tours at a Glance

Tuesday, October 9
& Wednesday, October 10

Northern Wisconsin Forest Tour Glenn & Ev Charlson Jim & Marlene Zdanovec

Wednesday, October 10

Central Sands Tour Nancy Livingston & David Czysz 8am-6:15pm

Wednesday, October 10 & Thursday, October 11

Title Town Tour
Thunder Mountain
Tom & Leslynn Jacobs

Thursday, October 11

Taste Of Wisconsin Dairy Farm Tour Shirley Bargander 8am-12pm

School Forest Tour Jeremy Solin 8am-4:30pm

Horicon Marsh Tour 8:30am-5pm

Sand County Tour Kendra Johncock 8:30am-5pm

Forest Products Lab
Dick & Charlotte Thompson
12:30pm-4:30pm

Sunday, October 14

Leopold Shack Tour 12:30pm-6pm

Convention Features Saturday at the "A"

By Randy Sthokal WTFC Tree Farm Administrator

he field day for the National Tree Farmer Convention will be held at the "Capital A," the Arington Tree Farm in Cambridge. The field day will take place on Saturday, October 13, 2007.

Joe Arington and Cathy Lorang will be our hosts for the day. Their 100-acre Tree Farm includes 40-50 acres of young planted stock, 10-15 acres of the hickory/oak type, and a diverse marsh area. The property is located only 20 minutes away from the Monona Terrace, the site of the convention.

The field day will include seminars on several topics, including invasive species, deer damage control and the use of fencing, pine thinning, brush removal, prescribed burning, wetland management, best management practices, pond management, growing trees for landscape stock, and bat behavior and biology.

The field day will also feature demonstrations on pruning, lumberjack sports, chainsaw carving and the use of portable sawmills, wood bowl turning, ISA Certified Arborist tree climbing, and a demonstration featuring live pheasants.

Other events will include pottery making, birdhouse building, cheese tasting, and live music courtesy of the Lonesome Rogues. Visit www.treefarmsystem.org for more convention information and check back often, as updates will be posted.

Spring Fire Season Outlook Raises Concern for Fire Officials

By Catherine Regan DNR Wildfire Prevention Specialist

very spring in Wisconsin, fire officials are gearing up for the wildland fire season. This year is no different; however, the factors that could contribute to the intensity of how fires burn is different. The 2007 spring to early summer fire season is forecast to be above normal across the northwestern portion of the state. These areas experienced well below normal precipitation amounts through 2006 and a minimal snowfall through mid-winter resulted in lower than normal snow pack.

If these current long-term drought conditions persist, fire officials expect an earlier than usual onset of spring fire season and significant fire potential extended throughout the rest of the year. This fire potential is defined in terms of the likelihood of significant fire events or activity that will require mobilization of additional resources from outside the area.

The traditional fire season begins when snow cover melts and prior to the curing of grasses and vegetation, moving from

southern to northern Wisconsin. The severity of the fire season is dependent on several elements, mostly relating to precipitation levels, fuel conditions, weather variables, and of course the potential for fire — the human influence.

Therefore, the DNR is strongly encouraging the public to consider alternatives, such as recycling or composting, instead of burning their leaf and brush piles this spring. Debris burning is the number one cause of wildfires and accounts for thousands of unwanted acres burned every year. The safest time for landowners and contractors who routinely burn debris piles is when the ground is completely snow-covered.

Fire officials will continue to monitor precipitation levels over the next several months. As the snow cover disappears. the DNR may aggressively consider suspending burning permits unless significant snow or rainfall occurs between now and then. Regardless, landowners are always encouraged to check with local fire officials prior to any outdoor burning for appropriate permits and restrictions, as fire conditions can change rapidly.

Tree Farm Sign

By Randy Sthokal WTFC Tree Farm Administrator

license agreement allows Managed Forest Law (MFL) landowners in the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Group Certification Program to display the ATFS Tree Farm sign.

The cost of the license agreement is \$35.00 and includes one Tree Farm sign,

in addition to all shipping and handling charges. The sign is shipped directly to the MFL landowner. Additional signs can be included in the order and are available for a fee of \$10.00 per sign.

Copies of the license packet are available on the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee website at http://www.witreefarm.org. Click on the menu item titled "MFL Group" to view the agreement.

For more information or to request printed copies of the license agreement, contact the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee at (715) 445-5991 or by

Christmas Trees and State Agriculture Department Requirements

By Jane Hewston Larson

DATCP Public Information Specialist

hrough the Managed Forest Law (MFL) and Forest Crop Law (FCL) programs, Wisconsin landowners are recognized for their forest stewardship efforts. By selecting one particular management option, you'll need to become acquainted with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) Christmas tree licensing and inspection program.

For MFL and FCL participants whose management plan includes Christmas trees, you will need a Christmas tree grower's license. Even if your trees are "just a hobby," if you are receiving money for your cut trees, you need a Christmas tree grower license from the DATCP. This license is required by Feb. 20 in the year you plan to start cutting your Christmas trees. Annual license fees start at \$20 per year if your estimated sales are under \$5,000.

An added benefit that comes with the license is tree inspection. Since 1911, the state agriculture department has licensed and inspected nursery stock growers and dealers to limit the movement of injurious pests or diseases. Due to the identification of destructive forest pests, such as gypsy moth and pine shoot beetle, in Wisconsin, Christmas tree growers were added to our licensing law in 2001. Licensing enables Christmas tree producers to comply with all federal and state quarantine regulations regarding the movement of these insects (see quarantine map). Inspections can offer certification of your trees to be free of the USDA regulated pests. Having your trees certified free of regulated pests increases opportunities to market your trees to wholesale buyers and out-of-state locations. When inspectors walk your field they will also help growers

identify more common disease and pest issues in their trees, while scouting for anything new or unusual.

For MFL and FCL participants whose management plan includes Christmas trees, obtaining a Christmas tree grower license ensures that you are following Wisconsin Statute 94.10. (To find a copy of Wisconsin Statute 94.10, go to www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/stat009 4.pdf.) For MFL landowners, certification through the American Tree Farm System also stipulates the following: American Forest Foundation Standard #2 Compliance with Laws, Performance Measure 2.1 – Forest owners must comply with all relevant federal, state, county and municipal laws and regulations.

To obtain a Christmas tree grower license application, you can call us (contacts listed below) or download an application from our website at www.datcp.state.wi.us. You can search for "Christmas trees" or select the quick link to "Licenses, Permits, Certification," then scroll to "Christmas tree grower license" and click on the link to the Christmas tree grower license application.

If you have further questions, contact Stacy VanWormer, DATCP license coordinator, (608)224-4574; Brooke Sanneh, Christmas tree licensing program director, (920)232-5605; or Robert Dahl, state plant pest and disease supervisor, (608)224-4573.

Wisconsin Quarantine Map for Gypsy Moth & Pine Shoot Beetle 2007



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection Updated 02/07

Oak Wilt: New Guidelines for Reducing the Risk of Introduction and Spread

By Jane Cummings Carlson

DNR Forest Health Coordinator

isconsin's land managers have been actively preventing and managing oak wilt for decades. Years of research have shown that the disease is spread overland to healthy trees via sap-feeding beetles that first feed on infected trees and then feed on fresh wounds on healthy oaks. Research has also shown that oak trees are most susceptible to overland infection in the spring and early summer. Therefore, limiting activities that wound oak in the spring and summer greatly reduces the chance of introducing oak wilt into a forest stand.

When is it most important to limit harvest activities?

This is the question posed by Dr. Jennifer Juzwik with the USDA Forest Service, forest pathology research unit. Over the past year, Dr. Juzwik and her Wisconsin-based team of consulting, industrial, county and DNR foresters, forest health specialists, and a forest ecologist have developed a process for determining the introduction risk and impact level of oak wilt based on selected stand factors. The new guidelines provide a standard process that can be used by all individuals involved in planning and harvesting when making decisions about timing a harvest to minimize the chances of introducing oak wilt.

How does the guide work?

First, answer a series of questions related to your stand. For example, 1) is your stand in a county with oak wilt? 2) what is the pre-harvest basal area of your oak? 3) is your terrain flat and rolling or steep with hills and deep valleys? 4) is your soil type light or heavy? The guide then presents recommendations regarding the timing of your harvest. Based upon your answers, a level of introduction risk, impact based on spread potential, and overall risk of impact and spread are determined. You are also provided with a recommendation as to when it is most important to limit harvest activities.

If I follow this guide, will all risk of introduction and spread be eliminated?

It is impossible to eliminate all risk of introducing oak wilt into a forest stand. Use of this guide is not intended to eliminate risk. It does provide information on the levels of risk of introduction and spread so you may make informed decisions.



Counties with oak wilt (shaded) - 2006

What forms the scientific basis of this guide?

Climate data and research on vector activity and fungal mat formation have shown that the level of risk for overland spread through fresh wounds rises significantly around April 1 south of the tension zone and April 15 north of the tension zone. The risk of overland infection decreases significantly after July 15 statewide; risk for overland infection drops further around October 1.

Additional research has shown that root grafts, which facilitate underground spread, are more common in light textured soils and less common in heavy soils. Observations in varying terrain has revealed that root grafts are more common in areas that are flat or rolling (0-12% slope) and less common in terrain that has steep hills and deep valleys (>12% slope).

When will this guide be available and in what format?

The new guidelines will be available this spring (approximately April 1) at: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/LP-protecting.htm or by contacting Jane Cummings Carlson, (608) 275-3273; Jane.CummingsCarlson@Wisconsin.gov. The guidelines will be in two formats, 1) an interactive spread sheet, available on the internet and 2) a flow chart that you may view on the internet or print for use in the field.

Moving Forward: Linking Monitoring to Action

By Amy Peterson DNR Associate Planner

he Wisconsin Council on Forestry is moving forward to increase the accountability of sustainable forest management in Wisconsin. The Forest Sustainability Framework Project will develop a comprehensive, but manageable set of indicators for monitoring Wisconsin's forest conditions and trends on a statewide scale. Wisconsin has participated in the development of several criteria and indicator systems on both regional and national scales. Identifying and monitoring a system specific to Wisconsin will provide the information necessary to match management practices to sustainability and will

supply the linkages needed between the Wisconsin Statewide Forest Plan goals and performance.

The overarching goal of Wisconsin's Statewide Forest Plan is to manage forests sustainably. That involves recognizing interconnections among ecological, economic, and social systems, and preserving their multiple benefits now and well into the future. In recent years, criteria and indicators systems have moved to the forefront of sustainability management. This project will build upon an already established criteria and indicators system that has been developed for the northeastern United States. Additional indicators or metrics will be evaluated for their usefulness in articulating Wisconsin's forest sustainability.

The Wisconsin Council on Forestry has formed an Advisory Committee that will meet during 2007 and will provide a recommended framework to the Council. Upon the Council's acceptance of a framework, data will then be gathered and analyzed to provide the fuel for an updated Forest Assessment in 2010 and the next Statewide Forest Plan in 2012.

Please go to council.wisconsinforestry.org for more information or contact Amy Peterson, associate planner, at Amy.Peterson@Wisconsin.gov if you would like to receive email update notices on this project.

National Tree Farmer Convention — Help Needed

By John G. DuPlissis
Forestry Outreach Programs Director,
University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point
and National Tree Farmer Convention
Committee Chair

s you have read this newsletter, you have learned that Wisconsin will host this year's National Tree Farmer Convention. What you may not know is that this convention will not be a success without your help and support. Hosting the convention is a tremendous undertaking and we have some very wonderful individuals who have committed to help us make this a success. They have undertaken the task

of trying to understand everything that goes into planning such a large event, but we are few, and many hands make for light and enjoyable work.

I would like to ask you to consider helping by serving on one of the planning committees. We are looking for folks who have skills that could help our Marketing and Communications Committee, Finance Committee, Events Planning Committee, Finance Committee, Auction, Exhibits and Raffle Committee, the Convention Store, and our Convention Logistics Committee. Much of this work has begun, but it could be better if you would lend us a hand.

If you don't feel like you can serve on one of the committees, we still need many people to help during the conference with registration, directions, purchases of commemorative items and the raffle or auction.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Randy Sthokal, Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee administrator, by phone at (715) 445-5991or e-mail at wtfc@athenet.net. Let Randy know how you would like to help and he will get you in touch with the right person. If we are going to succeed and show folks from the other 49 states what Wisconsin forestry is all about, then we will need your help to succeed.

Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program

By Melanie Jacobs

DNR WFLGP Coordinator

he Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP) is designed to assist private landowners in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters. The program allows qualified landowners to be reimbursed up to 50% of approvable costs.

Eligibility:

Private landowners in Wisconsin are eligible for WFLGP funding if they own at least 10 contiguous acres of non-industrial private forest but not more than 500 acres within Wisconsin. Applicants must have a forest stewardship plan in place on their land or be applying to have one prepared through the WFLGP program. Plans prepared for the Managed Forest Law program qualify. WFLGP funding granted to landowners can only be cost-shared for noncommercial practices.

Application Process:

Applications can be obtained from your local DNR forester and can be submitted to the DNR at any time. WFLGP grants are awarded on four separate dates per year: February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. Applications are awarded based on a first-come/first-serve by priority basis. It is ideal to send in a complete application well ahead of time. If an incomplete application is received at the DNR Central Office in Madison, it will not receive a place in line for funding. It will instead be sent back to the landowner or DNR forester for corrections. Landowners will receive an

award letter from the WFLGP coordinator indicating that eligible grant work may begin. Costs incurred prior to receiving an award letter are not eligible for WFLGP cost-sharing.

WFLGP Cost Share Distribution:

1. Management Plan Development — Priority 1 Practice

No more than 50% of available funding is set aside for management plan development.

2. Tree Planting and Timber Stand Improvement —

Priority 1 Practice

At least 40% of available funding is set aside for other priority 1 practices (tree planting and timber stand improvement).

3. All Other Practices — Priority 2 Practice

No more than 10% of available funding will be granted to lower priority practices.

Priority 2 Practices

- Soil and Water Protection and Improvement
- Wetland and Riparian Protection
- Wetland Restoration and Creation
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement
- Forest Historic, Aesthetic, Environmental and Recreation Enhancement
- Endangered or Threatened Resources and Rare Natural Community Protection, Restoration, Enhancement and Maintenance



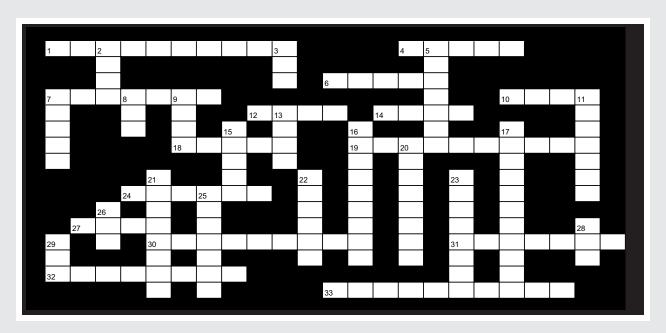
Have you moved? Or will you be moving? Please let us know your new address.

Mail address changes to: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Forest Tax Section, P.O. Box 7963, Madison, WI 53707

Crossword Puzzle

By Mary Meisner

DNR Forest Tax Program Specialist



Across

- 1 When continued existence is threatened
- 4 Organ of absorption (pl)
- 6 Main stem of a plant
- 7 Written warrants
- 10 Drops condensed from vapor in the atmosphere
- 12 Wisconsin landowner association (abbr)
- 14 A medium in which something takes hold and develops
- 18 Odd or strange
- 19 A pleasing appearance
- 24 Wood suitable for building purposes
- 27 Portion of the earths solid surface distinguishable by boundaries
- 30 An owner of land
- 31 To nourish
- 32 To reexamine or reevaluate especially with a view to change
- 33 The physical or natural features of a place or region

Down

- 2 Ruminant mammals
- 3 A banned pesticide (abbr)
- 5 Contagious oak disease
- 7 To put or set in the ground for growth
- 8 A government program to sustain forests (abbr)
- 9 Woody perennial plant
- 11 An area where plants are grown for transplanting
- 13 An obnoxious growth
- 15 Middle english: prouynen
- 16 Obligatory
- 17 Management of natural resources
- 20 A young tree grown from seed
- 21 Neither human nor domesticated
- 22 Time or season of growth
- 23 A person trained in forestry
- 25 Afire
- 26 An Asian beetle (abbr)
- 28 Any of a genus (Abies) of north temperate evergreen trees
- 29 Agency that administers the Managed Forest Law (abbr)

10 Rain	30 Landowner		9 Tree	ST Wildlife	
7 Permits	27 Land		8 MFL	20 Seedling	29 MFL
6 Stock	24 Timber		7 Plant	17 Stewardship	28 Fir
≥ Roots	29 Aesthetics		5 Oak wilt	16 Mandatory	Se eab
1 Endangered	18 Eerie	33 Торовгарћу	3 DDT	15 Prune	25 Burning
Across	IIOS 17T	32 Redefine	2 Deer	13 Weed	23 Forester
Answers	AUWW S.T.	at Sustain	UMOCI	T.T. IAUKSELY	Sunds 22

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